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American Embassy
Paris
July 21, 1953

Personal and Confidential

Dear Bunny:

I have considered very carefully your letter of July 15, 1953. I am flattered by your thinking of me in connection with the American Red Cross. I have a deep appreciation of the importance of the organization and a real affection for it. It is, I think, on the whole the finest public service organization in the world.

However, nothing would induce me to accept designation as one of its officers. I have no absolutely settled ideas for the future but, such as they are, they would be completely incompatible with such work. I shall not labor the matter further except to say that I am grateful to you for offering me this opportunity but my declination of it is positive and final.

As things now appear, I will not be coming back this autumn unless it might be on a fast trip. In this case I shall hope to see you on a personal basis and not in your capacity as President of the American Red Cross! Again, I want to express my thanks to you for your thought.

With warmest personal regards as always,

Ever yours,

David Bruce

The Honorable
E. Roland Harriman,
Brown Bros. Harriman and Co.,
59 Wall Street,
New York 5, New York.

DB:GES

Harriman, E. Roland

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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